



INDIANA RAILWAY MUSEUM • P.O. BOX 150 • FRENCH LICK, INDIANA 47432

February 6, 2004

Indiana Gaming Commission
115 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Attn: Mr. Glenn R. Lawrence, Executive Director

Dear Glenn:

I am writing you today to express the interest of the Indiana Railway Museum in cooperating with the casino operation planned for French Lick and West Baden Springs.

The Indiana Railway Museum (IRM) is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization. The IRM has been in existence since 1961 and in operation here at French Lick since 1978. The IRM owns 32 miles of track between French Lick-West Baden and Huntingburg, where the line connects with the Norfolk Southern Railway. IRM volunteer members work to restore and operate the historic railway equipment. The IRM operates 20 mile round trip rail excursions from April through November. Since 1978 the IRM has transported more than 640,000 passengers. I am enclosing one of our brochures for your inspection.

The French Lick-West Baden Springs Historic Hotel Preservation Commission (FL-WB HHPC) has designated the proposed casino site to be located adjacent to IRM property. The track of the IRM's "Wye" extends into the actual site. A "Wye" is a series of three switches used to turn railway equipment. A "Wye" is essential to the IRM's operation, however the "Wye" could be located elsewhere on the railroad.

The fact that the IRM has track that extends into the actual casino site is considered to be a plus by many people. This could prove to be an asset if the operators of the Casino and the operators of the two resorts desire to have some type of rail transportation to move people from one facility to another. The existing track would have to be extended closer to the two resorts as it once was years ago.

In the event that a decision is made not to use rail transportation for casino patrons, or that the Casino Operator believes that they need the area now occupied by the "Wye" track for their operation, the IRM would work with the Casino Operator and the FL-WB HHPC to produce a fair and equitable agreement to remove the "Wye" track and transfer ownership to the necessary party. It is also possible that the "Wye" track could be shortened, still allowing normal rail use by the IRM and permitting other use within the casino site.


The Indiana Railway Museum is eager to work both with the FL-WB HHPC and the Casino Operator to improve the appearance of the area. Over the years the IRM has acquired several pieces of railroad equipment that need restoration and improvement. The IRM's limited resources have not allowed us to do many of these projects. Many of the cars need to be painted and have glass replaced.

Through the efforts of the governments of Orange County and Dubois County, the IRM has obtained some 1.15 million dollars from Indiana Department of Transportation Enhancement Grants. This money will be used to improve 16 miles of track, the 2,200 foot Burton Tunnel, and the French Lick Passenger Station. The IRM must match this grant with \$ 287,500.00. This project will greatly improve our physical plant and insure continued safe operation of our trains.

At the present time the IRM has several pieces of non-operational track maintenance equipment that are stored in French Lick. There is also material used to repair track and bridges stored next to the French Lick Passenger Station. The IRM has planned to construct a new facility approximately 2 miles south of French Lick to store and repair this equipment. The removal of this equipment and material from French Lick would greatly improve the visual appearance of the museum grounds. The IRM would also be willing to work with the FL-WB HHPC and the Casino Operator to construct necessary shielding (trees or fencing) that might improve the appearance of the museum grounds.

The Indiana Railway Museum believes that there will be several opportunities in the future to expand operations that could attract more people to the area. Dinner Trains, Murder Mystery Trains, return of Steam Locomotives and excursions from Jasper and Huntingburg are several possibilities.

If you have any questions regarding our operation, please feel free to contact us at any time. Also please feel free to share this information with any of the applicants for the Casino License. The Indiana Railway Museum is open to any suggestions from future Casino Operators or the Indiana Gaming Commission that will improve our working relationship and help to develop the French Lick-West Baden Community.

Sincerely,

G. Alan Barnett
President & General Manager



The **Indiana Railway Museum** is a not-for-profit (501)(c)(3) organization. Donations to the IRM are tax deductible. Our volunteers serve as train and station crews. Membership information is available at the ticket window or by calling **1-800-74-TRAIN**. Fascinating railroad equipment from the museum's display includes several diesel and steam locomotives and a caboose. Souvenirs and railroad memorabilia are available in the station's gift shop as well as refreshments and the ever-popular **Snack Bar Car** that runs with every train.

TRAIN SCHEDULE

"ALL ABOARD"
The conductor sounds "ALL ABOARD" at 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time) on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from April through October and at 1:00 PM every Tuesday from June through October.
Weekends in November.
Train departs from the old **Monon Railroad Station** on Hwy. 56 in French Lick, Indiana.



For More Information About:
THE FRENCH LICK AREA
www.orangecountyin.com
frenchlick-westbadencce.org
SOUTHERN INDIANA
www.explore-si.com



FRENCH LICK Scenic Railway

1907

Indiana Railway Museum

1-800-74-TRAIN
www.indianarailwaymuseum.org

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Ride The Tunnel Route

The entire family will enjoy a ride on the French Lick, West Baden & Southern! The young and young-at-heart thrill to the sights and sounds of a real train.

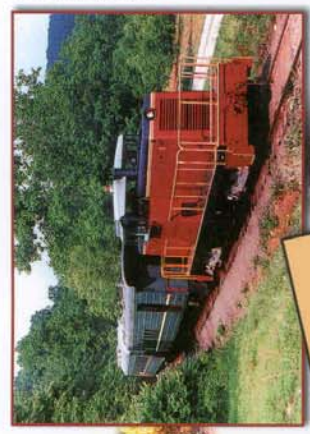
The 1 3/4 hour train trip takes you through 20 miles of Hoosier National Forest, limestone rock-cuts and the 2,200 foot Burton Tunnel, one of the longest railroad tunnels in the state. Excursion trips are powered by diesel locomotives.

Special group rates are available for school, private and corporate excursions. Some of these excursions are open to the public. Call for availability. Catering provided upon request. Call 1-800-748-7246.

Watch for exciting train robberies staged on special weekends!



Staged Train Robberies on Special Weekends



The Old Monon Railroad Station was built in 1907.

ADMIT ONE

Regular Fare:
 Adults \$9.00
 Children (3-11) \$5.00
 under 3 FREE



Springs Valley Electric Railway, Trolley Car #313, built in 1930 in Portugal, carries passengers between French Lick and West Baden. The Trolley operates daily from 10 AM to 4 PM - June through October.

INDIANA
Railway Museum

THIS COUPON WORTH
\$1.00 OFF
 EACH ROUND TRIP
 TICKET PURCHASED



(812) 936-2405 or 1-800-74-TRAIN



Monon Caboose